United Nations E/C.2/2009/2/Add.31

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
18 March 2009

Original: English/French

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations
2009 resumed session
18-27 May 2009

Quadrennial reports for the period 2004-2007 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 1996/31*

Note by the Secretary-General

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

09-27236 (E) 310309 070409

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1. Comité nationale d'entraide de la jeunesse et de l'enfance (Special; 2004)

Part I — Introduction

The aims of our organization are to provide mutual aid for young people and children, in Algeria in particular and in Africa and the world in general: to raise awareness, to help, take charge of, involve and support, but also monitor and assist, partner and work alongside and be attuned to young people and children who are ill and deprived, marginalized or at risk, in order to safeguard them and keep them out of harm's way in society, and teach them to start being responsible for themselves and confronting life with assurance, confidence and optimism. There has been no amendment or addition to our Statute since we last participated in a DPI/NGO annual conference, at the fifty-fourth session on 13 September 2001 at United Nations Headquarters.

We set up new unit on 24 April 2003, the Health and Solidarity Unit, made up of a team of young people who help children to fill their days during hospital stays but also when they are in specialized institutions for physical and mental rehabilitation or social reintegration. The Algeria Committee has accordingly proposed expanding its activities in the areas of: (i) humanitarian aid in all sectors having to do with young people's well-being and physical and mental development; (ii) social, educational and cultural projects targeting children and young people, especially projects that further their access to modern fields of knowledge and technical know-how.

In order to obtain the human, material and financial resources needed to achieve its objectives, the Algeria Committee will: (i) initiate fund-raising and gift-giving campaigns and generate income in any number of other ways; (ii) expand and organize its network of persons with skills ready to make common cause, so as to ensure that their contribution can be effective; and (iii) pursue all avenues of cooperation with organizations working along the same lines.

The Algeria Committee wants to use new methods of building its credibility and moral authority. Therefore, its members and administrators make a solemn commitment to: (i) ascertain in every instance that the channels used to convey and distribute material and financial aid to those for whom it is intended are reliable, trustworthy and effective; (ii) work in a completely above-board and transparent manner, making all its accounts and the records of its activities available upon request to members and donors.

In 2004, a crafts fair was organized in cooperation with Algerian artisans that was a large-scale exhibit of the local products of the Ghardaia region of southern Algeria, with the profits going to our organization.

In 2005, a gastronomy week was held in the Kouba Hall of Culture in Algiers, and the food contributions were used to benefit the organization.

In 2006, performances of Andalusian songs during the month of Ramadan in the wilaya (prefecture) of Tipaza were held for the benefit of sick and hospitalized children.

In 2007, Committee funds were used to support workshops open to the public in decorative arts, dressmaking, sculpture and pottery.

Part II — Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

(i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings

Our organization has a clear strategy set at the beginning of the year by the Executive Bureau. We did not participate in the work and meetings of the Economic and Social Council during the period 2004-2007 not for lack of interest but because our budget that did not allow us to consider spending what would have been required. We gave immediate attention to the needs on the ground (purchase of urgently needed oncology medications, purchase of wheelchairs, establishment of libraries in centres for disadvantaged and homeless adolescents, and the like). Our activities follow United Nations principles and we seriously intend to take part in the work of the Council in 2009.

(ii) Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies

On 25 May 2003, we met with local communities in the wilaya of Boumerdes, Algeria, to give our logistical, psychological and social support in assisting the victims of the major earthquake in Boumerdes.

On 1 June 2004 in Algiers, an extraordinary meeting was held under the aegis of the Algerian Ministry of Solidarity, where a joint decision was taken to make a serious effort to take full charge of abandoned children.

On 1 March 2005, in Ain Defla, a national information campaign was launched to publicize the new Algerian rules of the road.

Since 2005, we have been working in close collaboration with the Ministry of the Interior to combat sexual violence against children.

(iii) Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

Our first goal: Guarantee adequate primary school education

Target 1: Guarantee the availability of basic funding for primary school education:

- Establishment of mobile schools in inaccessible areas: 17;
- Opening of libraries suited to at-risk adolescents: 15;
- Number of needy children receiving extra help in school: 150;
- Disadvantaged children receiving school supplies: 220.

Target 2: Ensure solid training for disadvantaged young people and children:

- Adolescents receiving vocational training: 82;
- Young people saved from the street and given schooling: 21.

Our second goal: Ensure the physical and mental health of disadvantaged and abandoned children

Target 1: Ensure proper nutrition for disadvantaged children:

- Food donations: 1,500;
- Installation of wastewater purifiers: 4.

Target 2: Ensure a good sports education:

- Number of disadvantaged and disabled children enrolled in sports clubs: 489;
- Establishment of neighbourhood sports centres: 19;
- Items of sports equipment provided: 321.

Target 3: Ensure available health care for disadvantaged children and assistance for the disabled:

- Donations of commonly used medications: 1,652;
- Donations of apparatuses and equipment for the disabled: 125;
- Visits by mobile medical teams in remote areas: 25.

Our third goal: Guarantee leisure activities and entertainment for needy children

Target 1: Leisure activities and entertainment for disadvantaged children and victims of terrorism:

- Children sent to vacation camps: 3,500;
- Children taken in by host families abroad: 220.

Target 2: Leisure activities for poorly functioning and disabled children:

- Children with physical and mental disabilities participating in stays abroad: 263;
- Mentally disabled children enrolled in riding clubs and circus schools: 62.

Target 3: Entertainment of hospitalized and sick children:

- Establishment of play rooms in hospitals: 25;
- Establishment of screening rooms for animated films: 8.

2. International Association "Znanie" (General; 2000)

Part 1 — Introduction

In 2007 the International Association "Znanie" (Knowledge in Russian) (IA Znanie) and its members celebrated a historically significant event – the 60th anniversary of the creation of the All-Union Society on dissemination of political and scientific knowledge of which International Association is the legal successor. Today, IA Znanie is one of the oldest associations of non-governmental organizations in the world. Members of the Association are scientific and public educational organizations - societies Znanie of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan; as well as non-governmental educational organizations from other countries: Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Israel, Mongolia, United States of America, Viet Nam.

i. Aims, purposes and main course of action of the organization:

The primary goals of IA Znanie are to promote concerted efforts and facilitate the intellectual and humanitarian activity of its members, to increase the cultural and educational level of the population, to foster contacts between scientists and experts from different countries, to facilitate international exchange of information, dissemination of scientific, technical and humanitarian knowledge. The sources of financing of Association are membership dues and voluntary contributions of the sponsor organizations.

IA Znanie has general consultative status and accreditation with the Economic and Social Council, Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and Department of Public Information (DPI) within the United Nations system; for a long time it has been a member of the United Nations Information and Communication Technologies Task Force, and now actively works in the Global Alliance for ICT and Development of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA-GAID). IA Znanie contributes to the implementation of the United Nations aims and ideals, in particular concerning dissemination of knowledge, protection of human rights, continuing education that conforms to the spirit of the United Nations Charter, Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Millennium Development Goals (MDG). The International Association Znanie by instruction of the United Nations carries out a role of the coordinator of the United Nations NGO Informal Regional Network (IRENE) for Eastern Europe and the CIS countries.

In 1997, at the initiative of IA Znanie, heads of governments of the CIS (12 independent countries of the former Soviet Union) signed an Agreement for cooperation in the field of knowledge promotion and adult education and created a new intergovernmental organization - Interstate Committee of CIS on Knowledge Promotion and Adult Education. IA Znanie has entered into the Committee as a full member equal with independent states of the CIS. Thus, being recognized by the Russian Federation and the countries of the former Soviet Union a new independent transnational super industry namely

the education of adults started developing, becoming a main tool and factor of social development at the heart of mankind sustainable development, according to the United Nations' formula, it is the best example of type 2 partnership.

As a result of type 2 partnership between IA Znanie and Interstate Committee of CIS on Knowledge Promotion and Adult Education, another base structure was created: Modern University for the Humanities (MUH) whose main target is the education of students and adults in the most remote parts of planet through modern satellite communications. By number of students (more than 175,000) MUH have leading positions among institutions of higher education of Europe, CIS and the Russian Federation.

MDGs formulated by the United Nations, could be solved best by means of satellite technologies when the poorest people living in the hot spots of the planet, such as, the Chechen Republic (Russian Federation) and Afghanistan, prisons in which there are dozens of millions of people, people in remote villages and high-mountainous settlements without roads, transport and electricity, can get education at the best universities of the world and get acquainted with the achievements of mankind, science and culture through virtual space.

International Association Znanie, Interstate Committee of CIS on Knowledge Promotion and Adult Education together with Scientific Research Institute of Space Systems – division of Khrunichev State Research and Production Space Center, Moscow – continued their work on the creation of the World University for Long Distance Education. Its primary goal is to provide a mutual exchange and export/import of knowledge between the world is leading universities. The World University should unite the mental potential and content of the best professors and world universities, using practical achievements of the Russian and world space telecommunications.

In 2004-2007 the activities on preparation for the 60th anniversary of the All-Union Society Znanie -International Association Znanie were conducted. An Organizing Committee was created together with the Presidential Council of honorary members including well-known government and public figures, diplomats, scientists, Nobel Prize laureates, and journalists from different countries.

There were numerous meetings with veterans of the enlightenment movement - heads and active workers of the Znanie Society. Their memoirs are placed on the official website of the IA Znanie which has been completely updated both by structure and by content. The video, photos and documents reflecting the history of the Society were gathered. At the end of the accounting period, special newspaper and magazine issues devoted to this anniversary were published. Also, a film reflecting the historical retrospective of IA Znanie activities was made. In the course of the preparation for the anniversary and strengthening of contacts within the CIS countries, the President of International Association Znanie, Professor E.M. Malitikov visited Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations Meetings

In 2004-2007, the International Association Znanie actively cooperated with authoritative international organizations, cultural and educational centers of various countries. Representatives of IA Znanie participated in the following events devoted to the issues of knowledge dissemination and adult education, technical maintenance and legal registration of activities of the World University for Long Distance Education: (i) 28th session of the UNIDO Industrial Development Board, 25-27 May 2004, Vienna, Austria; (ii) Economic and Social Council High Level Segment, 29 June 2004, New York; (iii) High-level Seminar on Policy Awareness and Security Issues in Information Technology, the United Nations Information and Communication Technologies Task Force, 9 September 2004, New York; (iv) Conference of NGOs (CONGO), 26-27 September 2004, Geneva, Switzerland; (v) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) – preparation to the Conference "Harnessing the potential of ICT, including satellite technologies for creation of a comprehensive society of knowledge", 18 January 2005, Paris, France; (vi) Economic and Social Council High Level Segment - Achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, 14-17 March 2005, New York; (vii) Conference "UNESCO Project in the Russian Federation – New social policy: family - health – food – cooperation with UNESCO", 29-30 August 2005, St.-Petersburg, Russian Federation; (viii) United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), 17-23 October 2005, Vienna, Austria; (ix) Expert Round Table: "Promoting the advancement and achievement of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) through new academic programmes, pedagogical tools, and educational software" French

Economic and Social Council, 24 October 2005, Paris, France; (x) 11th Session of UNIDO General Conference, 2 December 2005, Vienna, Austria; (xi) Conference of the Global Alliance for ICT and Development of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA-GAID): "UN meets Silicon Valley", 28 February 2007, Santa Clara, United States of America; (xii) 33rd session the UNIDO Industrial Development Board, 25-27 June 2007, Vienna, Austria.

Other Conferences, Meetings and Events.

(i) Conference on use of satellite technologies in education, 16-18 June 2004, Greifswald, Germany; (ii) Visit to the Space Launcher Complex Baikonur, 21-24 December 2004, Kazakhstan; (iii) 4th Jubilee Congress of Free Economic Society of the Russian Federation, 31 October 2005, Moscow; (iv) Official visit of Professor E. M. Malitikov to Kyrgyzstan and his meeting with the President of Kyrgyzstan K. Bakiev, 26-30 March 2006, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan; (v) 6th Congress of International Association "Znanie", 29-30 May 2006, Kemer, Turkey; (vi) Visit of Professor E. M. Malitikov to Tajikistan and his meeting with the Prime Minister of Tajikistan A. Akilov, 25-30 July 2006, Dushanbe, Tajikistan; (vii) Round table with participation of the heads of IA Znanie, Interstate Committee of CIS on Knowledge Promotion and Adult Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, Scientific Research Institute of Space Systems and Modern University for the Humanities: "Use of satellite systems in the field of long distance education", 7 September 2006, Moscow; (viii) 57th International Astronautical Congress, 1-6 October 2006, Valencia, Spain; (ix) World Family Summit +2, 5-7 December 2006, Jordan; (x) 7th Global Forum on Reinventing Government, 26-29 June 2007, Vienna, Austria; (xi) The Uzbek-Russian round table on coordination of activities of public organizations with scientific and educational structures for dissemination of knowledge and new technologies, 11 September 2007, Tashkent, Uzbekistan; (xii) President of International Association Znanie, Professor E. M. Malitikov delivered speeches practically at all of these events, conferences and seminars.

3. International Council of Environmental Law (General; 2000)

Part I — Introduction

i. Aims and Purpose

The International Council of Environmental Law (ICEL) was formed in 1969 in New Delhi as a public interest organisation with the aims of promoting the exchange and dissemination of information on the legal, administrative and policy aspects of environmental conservation and sustainable development, to support new initiatives in this field, and to encourage advice and assistance through its network.

In fostering the exchange of information, ICEL focuses on collecting and disseminating documents on international, regional and local environmental law and policy. To improve access to information and expand contacts between environmental lawyers, ICEL has also initiated the creation of a broader network of associations, institutions, and academics. This network is active in the field of environmental law and policy in the interest of the development, negotiation, review and implementation of Agenda 21, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), existing multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and international environmental governance (IEG).

ii. ICEL's membership

ICEL is comprised of 227 individual and 17 corporate members distributed across 10 regions covering all continents. ICEL is directed by a Board of Governors (international governors and two regional governors, elected by each of the 10 regions). The Board elects two executive governors, as well as individuals and institutions proposed for membership in ICEL.

Part II — Contribution to the work of the United Nations

As a chief contribution to the work of the UN and in fulfilling its aim of promoting the exchange and dissemination of information on the legal, administrative and policy aspects of environmental conservation and sustainable development,

ICEL fervently reports on the environment-related activities of the United Nations in *Environmental Policy and Law: The journal for decision-makers* (See Part 2, Section iii (d) of this report for further information).

i. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other UN meetings.

a. Participation

In the period 2004-2007, ICEL participated as far as necessary and possible in the following United Nations events and conferences: (i) 59th-62nd Sessions of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) (2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007) New York: Participated in relevant Committee and Assembly meetings, as related to agenda items on the topics of environment and sustainable development; (ii) 12th-15th Sessions of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) (2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007) New York: Participated in relevant agenda items and discussions, as related to law, policy and governance in environment and sustainable development; (iii) 8th-9th Special Sessions of the United Nations Environment Programme Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum (UNEP/GCSS/GMEF) (2004: Jeju (Republic of Korea), 2006: Dubai (UAE)): Participated in relevant agenda items and discussions, as related to law, policy and governance in environment and sustainable development; (iv) 23rd-24th Sessions of the United Nations Environment Programme Governing Council (UNEP/GC) (2005 and 2007 Nairobi (Kenya)): Participated in relevant agenda items and discussions, as related to law, policy and governance in environment and sustainable development; (v) All Conferences of the Parties of MEAs, especially related to agenda points concerning law, policy and governance in environment and sustainable development.

The scope of this report does not permit a full listing of all the individual contributions of our members to the many conferences and events in the period under consideration.

b. Written statements

ICEL submitted a written statement to the Fifty-eighth session of the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, which was circulated on 4 August 2006 under agenda item 4 of the provisional agenda: Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Document A/HRC/Sub.1/58/NGO/1 addressed the rights and duties associated with the right to water.

ii) Cooperation with UN bodies and specialised agencies

During the period addressed in this report, ICEL was represented at the following United Nations Offices: (i) United Nations Headquarters, New York, (a) Maintained permanent contacts and performed work in consistency with the Office of Legal Affairs (OLA), especially as it relates to the Office of the Legal Counsel (OLC), the Codification Division (COD), the Division for Ocean Affairs and Law of the Sea (DOALOS), and the Treaty Section; (b) Participated in discussions within the Sixth Committee regarding agenda points associated with environment and sustainable development, particularly related to the rule of law at the national and international levels; (ii) United Nations Office (UNOG), Geneva (Switzerland): ICEL maintained permanent contacts with various UNOG offices as their work relates to the environment and sustainable development; (iii) United Nations Office (UNOV), Vienna (Austria): ICEL maintained permanent contacts with various UNOV offices as their work relates to the environment and sustainable development; (iv) Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Addis Ababa (Ethiopia); (v) Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), Geneva (Switzerland): An ICEL representative participated in the 4th meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (2006): Bonn (Germany), as well as the Sixth Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe" (2007): Belgrade (Serbia); (vi) Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Santiago (Chile); (vii) Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), Beirut (Lebanon); (viii) Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Bangkok (Thailand); (ix) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Nairobi (Kenya): Participated in meetings to develop and subsequently supported implementation of the third Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law (Montevideo Programme III), as well as taking part in meetings to prepare the Montevideo Programme IV; (x) Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Rome (Italy); (xi) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Paris (France); (xii) International Court of Justice (ICJ),

The Hague (Netherlands); (xiii) International Law Commission (ILC), Geneva (Switzerland)/New York (USA); (xiv) International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS), Hamburg (Germany).

iii) Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of internationally agreed development goals

Contacts: Permanent relations are maintained between ICEL, United Nations bodies, specialised agencies, individual departments and staff members to ensure harmonized initiatives.

Elizabeth Haub Prizes: From 1973-2006, ICEL, together with the Free University of Brussels awarded the Elizabeth Haub Prize for exceptional accomplishments in the field of environmental law. A new agreement of cooperation was signed between ICEL and the University of Stockholm in 2007 to continue this eminent prize. Recipients in the period under consideration included: Ramon Ojeda Mestre (2004), Phillippe Sands (2005), Dinah Shelton and Thomas Mensah (2006), and Françoise Burhenne-Guilmin and David Freestone (2007). Since 1999, ICEL, in cooperation with Pace University Law School has awarded the Elizabeth Haub Award for Environmental Diplomacy. Recipients during the period included: Mohamed El-Ashry (2004), James MacNeill (2005), Klaus Töpfer (2006), and Mohamed Sahnoun (2007).

Library: ICEL, in cooperation with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) and the IUCN-Centre for Environmental Law (IUCN-ELC), maintains what may be the world's most extensive collection of documents on environmental law and policy (international treaties, supra-national instruments, national legislation, soft law, literature and documents of international organizations, especially the UN system). Material from all countries and in all languages is collected in order to maintain as broad coverage as possible. In partnership with FAO, IUCN and UNEP, references to the documents are entered into the computerized data bank ECOLEX –the gateway to environmental law-. Currently, ECOLEX contains full text links to more than 1100 multilateral and bilateral agreements, 62,000 documents related to national legislation, 420 court decisions and 28,000 pieces of literature on law and policy.

Publications: In the period reported, ICEL published 24 issues of *Environmental Policy and Law: The journal for decision-makers*, a world-leading journal devoted to informing readers concerning the development, negotiation and implementation of Agenda 21, the MDGs, MEAs and IEG. The leading section covers the activities of the United Nations system, including reports on all UNGAs, UNEP/GC meetings, CSD sessions and MEAs. During the period covered, over 180 articles and reports were published on the work of the United Nations. Further sections include: other international developments, regional affairs, national affairs, references to other topics, and a section for selected documents of special interest, such as important declarations, resolutions and decisions.

Throughout the period, ICEL published over 250 loose-leaf instalments in the ten binder publication *International Protection of the Environment: Conservation in Sustainable Development*. This is the only comprehensive source of environmental legal declarations, decisions and other important "soft law" instruments from the United Nations (including all environment-related UNGA resolutions), its family organizations and other major international bodies.

ICEL added over 40 supplements to the ten binder loose-leaf series *International Environmental Law: Multilateral Treaties* during the period. The series contains over 350 instruments in English, French and (where applicable) German or Spanish. This publication, tracks the signature, accession and ratification of all treaties relevant to the environment in collaboration with the United Nations Treaty Section.

iv. Activities in-line with the Millennium Development Goals (MDG)

African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources

Since the adoption of the Convention by the Assembly of the African Union (AU) in 2003 in Maputo, ICEL –after assisting to draft the text- has continued during the period to collaborate with the United Nations and AU to push for ratification of the only Africa-wide instrument in existence in the field of conservation and natural resources management in the context of sustainable development.

v. Activities in Support of Global Principles

Draft International Covenant on Environment and Development: In cooperation with the IUCN-Commission on Environmental Law (IUCN-CEL), ICEL initiated a project to consolidate major existing and emerging legal principles

related to environmental conservation and sustainable development into a draft of an internationally binding legal instrument, thus contributing to the progressive development of international environmental law. A second revised text was presented to the Member States of the United Nations on the occasion of the 59th Session of the General Assembly in 2004. Translations of the Covenant in French, German, Italian and Spanish were completed during the period reported.

4. Institute for Multicultural Communications, Cooperation and Development (Special; 2004)

Part I — Introduction

Institute for Multicultural Communications, Cooperation and Development IF-MC-CA-DI's mission has not changed during the 2004- 2007 period. It is to bridge divides among and between the world's cultural communities to promote their development. To advance its mission, **IF-MC-CA-DI: (i)** Promotes cooperation, collaboration and partnerships between diverse individuals and groups through conferences, concerts, videos, television shows, Internet communications, publications, networking and other events; (ii) Creates and helps implement programs and projects led by economic and/or social entrepreneurs and involving diverse multicultural enterprises and workforces; (iii) Conducts research on states, civil societies, transnational communities and international institutions. **IF-MC-CA-DI** is currently focused on Spanish speaking communities in, South, Central, North America and the Caribbean.

Part II — Contributions of the Organization to the work of the United Nations

i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings.

Since 2 July 2004, when the Council first granted IF-MC-CA-DI special consultative status, the organization's President and some volunteer Program Associates began to better familiarize themselves with the work of the United Nations. To accomplish this, they have participated in many conferences and United Nations meetings, analyzed materials made available, and conducted research in several issues of concern to the United Nations and IF-MC-CA-DI. These include, social development and social integration, migration and sustainable development, intercultural and inter-religious affairs.

The following activities were held at the United Nations headquarters, New York:

IF-MC-CA-DI's President made a strong effort to get a comprehensive view of the scope of the United Nations work in social development when he attended the 43rd Session Commission on Social Development, 9-18 February 2005. The President attended various meetings organized under the Commission, including a pre-session NGO forum, the plenary, panel discussions on the United Nations work with young people, older persons and a panel discussing the perspectives of the International Labour Organization, the World Bank, and the International Monetary Fund. Close attention was paid to a summary of the Secretary Generals' report on "Review of the Further Implementation of World Summit for Social Development and the Outcome of the 24th Special Session of the General Assembly which described and analyzed the comprehensive policy frame work for social development set forth by the Copenhagen Declaration and Program of Action.

In addition to gaining a better understanding of the great efforts being made by the United Nations in this area, which interlinks with many other important areas, the President used the information and knowledge gained in this session to better align IF-MC-CA-DI's work program with that of the United Nations, in order to contribute more to advance the progress being made in this area. Specifically, IF-MC-CA- DI has completed a social integration plan, which has an integrated set of strategies, research, communications and on-the -ground activities to facilitate operation at the various levels of society. Though its communication strategy, the social integration project links Latino Diaspora communities in the Bronx, New York with communities in corresponding countries of origin, through a focus on the activities of transnational entrepreneurs who operate in the emerging transnational communities.

IF-MC-CA-DI's President and one volunteer Program Associate attended the 14th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, 1-12 May 2006. The session helped them evaluate the progress which has been made in implementing sustainable development goals and in identifying obstacles and constraints to implementation. The President also took advantage of the opportunity to expand his knowledge in the field by attending an Information Meeting on The Informal Interactive Hearings of the General Assembly with Non-Government Organizations, Civil Society and the Private

Sector on the Least Developed Countries and on International Migration and Development, 10 May 2006. Additionally, the President also took advantage of the opportunity – along with other NGO's Civil Society Organizations (CSO's) and the Private Sector- to interact with Member States in preparation for High Level Dialogue (scheduled for 14-15 September 2006) during the Informal Interactive Hearings with Representatives of Civil Society, NGOs and the Private Sector on International Migration and Development, 12 July 2006. The presentations during the meeting were followed by an interactive dialogue between audience members with a view to the articulation of concrete suggestions and proposals for consideration by Member States. The president asked a question regarding the apparent need for increased private sector participation; specially, the small and medium sized small business sector. Following the informal hearing the president also participated as an observer during. The United Nations High Level Dialogue (HLD) on international Migration and Development, 14-15 September 2006. Following up IF--MC-CA-DI's growing interested in Migration and Development the President participated in a seminar on this topic; namely, United Nations Institute For Training and Research (UNITAR) Migration and Development Series: Seminar on Building Partnerships, 7 March 2007. The Seminar was organized to support ongoing policy discussions on International Migration and Development, which gained momentum during the General Assembly's HLD held in September of 2006.

The president attended the Informal Thematic Debate of the General Assembly-Civilizations and the Challenge of Peace: Obstacles and Opportunities, 10-11 May 2007.

Finally before end of 2007, the president participated in the High-Level Dialogue and Informal Interactive Hearing with Civil Society on Inter-religious and Intercultural Understanding and Cooperation for Peace, 4-5 October 2007. He focused on Panel 2- Best Practices and Strategies for Inter-religious and Intercultural Cooperation.

ii) **Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized field agencies in the field or at Headquarters.**

Only at the end of this reporting period did the organization begin exploring the involvement of United Nation Development Program in a conference on Migration and Development aimed at increasing private sector participation in this conversation. However, the Social Integration plan adopted by IF-MC-CA-DI requires cooperative partnerships with several of the UN bodies. Thus cooperation with the latter will increase in the near future.

iii) Initiatives in Support of United Nations Goals

The information and knowledge gained from participating in the meetings listed have been used by the organization in talks to groups outside the United Nations and will guide the organization's planned conferences and video productions. For example, since January of 2006, the president of IF-MC-CA-DI has been leading a series of monthly meetings on diversity, development and democracy in Spanish speaking communities at the Harvard Club of New York City. The millennium development goals have been discussed along with the role of the United Nations in this region. On 21 July 2007, the Dominican Republic's Ambassador spoke on "UN Reform Process, Conflict Resolution and Maintenance of Peace Processes; "while on 4 April 2007, Honduras Ambassador spoke on the United States and DR-CAFTA. Also, as part of the organization's planned television production series, IF-MC-CA-DI's president visited Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) between 29 December 2006 and 5 January 2007. Interviews were recorded with individuals and groups in civil society, as the elections for president were observed.

IFMCCADI would have performed much better in the implementation of United Nations programs if it had more funds and staff (all volunteers) to attend to (a) attend more international meetings, especially those held outside the New York metropolitan area, (b) organize supportive events, and (c) complete more video/television productions.

5. Vie montante internationale (Special; 2000)

Part I — Introduction

Vie montante internationale was established in 1995 to expand the activities of the organization Vie montante France on an international scale.

Its objective is to help retired older people to make this stage of their lives a profitable time for themselves and for others. Too often, the elderly are considered to be useless. Often living alone, they are supported by their families or the State. Our movement aims to restore their role and dignity.

In order to do so, it organizes local groups of elderly persons who meet and form friendships as a way of fighting loneliness. It stimulates them to remain active by volunteering to perform various services in their families and their communities. Lastly, our organization helps them to achieve a feeling of self-esteem and usefulness by making their own spiritual lives deeper in accordance with their religious beliefs or philosophies.

Vie montante internationale coordinates the activities and the funds available to groups in the various countries where the movement is active. It suggests topics of reflection and discussion relating to the activities of the elderly. Each branch of the organization is organized nationally. Depending on the country it is known as: Vie Montante, Vida Ascendente, Life Ascending, Ascent, Mouvement Chrétien des Retraités and so on.

In each continent (Africa, North America, South America, Asia and Europe), there is a coordinator chosen by the organizations of that continent and approved by the General Assembly. The coordinators met with the President and the Executive Committee in October 2004 in Lourdes, France, and in October 2006 in Dole, France.

The General Assembly, comprising the national presidents, is held every four years. In 2006, it was held in Lourdes. The organization publishes a quarterly international bulletin in three languages (French, English and Spanish).

Part II — Contribution to the work of the United Nations

The organization has not participated much in the work of the Economic and Social Council because its representative in Geneva is a volunteer who had little time and money to act as representative to the United Nations. He has, in fact, submitted his resignation and we are currently looking for a successor. Moreover, the current director assumed their duties in 2006 and therefore cannot provide information on prior periods.

Our organization is not directly involved in international action related to the Millennium Development Goals. Our mode of operating centres on mobilization at the local level. By encouraging elderly persons to be active and aware of their role within their own communities, we are helping, by another route, to achieve the Goals.

Vie montante internationale has organized continent-wide encounters:

- The European movements met in 2004 at Popowo, Poland, to discuss the topic, "Youthful retired persons".

Some countries have organized special activities:

- In Africa, the movements in Rwanda and Malawi are very aware of the consequences of AIDS. They endeavour to help the grandparents who are taking care of grandchildren whose parents have died. They provide material assistance, especially by teaching women to plant small vegetable gardens.

Some groups in Mali engaged in reflection on human rights and the rights of citizens, during the monthly meetings of grass-roots groups throughout the year 2007 and then in a General Assembly attended by 131 participants in Mandiakuy at the end of the year. The emphasis was on solidarity, the usefulness of the elderly in village communities, particularly vis-à-vis the young, who respect them and are willing to be influenced by them.

Several countries participated in the International Day of Older Persons. In Cameroon, for instance, in Baffusan, the organization's secretary participated in a conference organized on 1 October 2007 by the provincial social affairs delegation. That was an occasion for addressing problems related to health and nutrition in particular. Two United Nations delegates present reported on pilot projects for retired persons conducted in Senegal and Cameroon in order to encourage the participants to emulate them.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, our organization is considering together with others how to devise a system of social and charitable activities to combat poverty in disadvantaged milieux. We do not at the moment know if anything specific has yet been done.

- In Asia, our Japanese organization has for the last decade or so had a pilot project under which it runs a retirement home in Hokkaido in northern Japan.

In Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam, a charitable team has been set up to serve the poor, the blind and the elderly who live alone. It also provided assistance to a school for disabled children at Christmas time, 2007, consisting mainly of material help and gifts for the children.

The person in charge of Asia held training sessions in Viet Nam, the Chinese province of Taiwan and Japan in December 2007. The goal is to make elderly persons understand the active role they can and should still play in the life of society, drawing on their experience.

- None of these activities can be carried out without financial help from Vie montante internationale.

It should also be noted that the organization is an active participant in the CRESCENDO network, which comprises fifteen international organizations and religious congregations dealing with the problems of ageing.

- Through this network, Vie montante internationale participated in the NGO forum in Madrid, Spain, in 2002, where it contributed a document proposing an international strategy on ageing.

- In October 2006, the organization participated in an international seminar organized by CRESCENDO in Bossey, Switzerland, which drew up an international plan of action and recommendations on ageing.

- CRESCENDO also made a presentation at a conference at the University of Bangalore, India, in February 2006, on the topic "Ageing with health and dignity".

Vie montante internationale is currently trying to establish contacts in Paris with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), where thought is given to the problems of the family, of which elderly persons are a part.